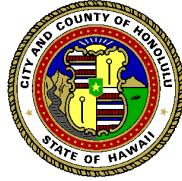


HONOLULU FIRE COMMISSION  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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CHARLOTTE NEKOTA  
VICE CHAIR

JAMES S. WATARU

STEFANIE LEE

MAX HANNEMANN

WILLIAM HONG

DENNIS MORTON

Minutes of Regular Public Meeting  
Honolulu Fire Department Headquarters  
Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium  
Wednesday, September 18, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Nagamine called the regular meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig Nagamine, Charlotte Nekota, Max Hannemann, William Hong, Dennis Morton, James Wataru, and Stefanie Lee.

IN ATTENDANCE: Fire Chief Manuel Neves (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Ron Rico (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Socrates Bratakos (HFD), Battalion Chief David Morgan (HFD), Battalion Chief Keith Yasui (HFD), Battalion Chief Craig Uchimura (HFD), Battalion Chief John Bowers (HFD), Battalion Chief Paul Fukuda (HFD), Battalion Chief Robert Thurston (HFD), Battalion Chief Brett Mau (HFD), Battalion Chief Alan Park (HFD), Battalion Chief Wayne Masuda (HFD), Battalion Chief Alan Carvalho (HFD), Daisy Canite-Miyashiro (HFFA), Brian Ancheta (Corporation Counsel), and Nadine Murata.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY. Chair Nagamine asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to give public testimony. There was none.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 28, 2019. Chair Nagamine called for any comments or corrections to the minutes of the regular public meeting of August 28, 2019. Fire Chief Neves mentioned there were minor corrections. Fire Chief Neves mentioned under hazardous conditions the report should have reflected 33 and not 44 weather related incidents.

He mentioned under Deputy Chief Camara that the Director of the Department of Land Management is Sandy Pfund. Fire Chief Neves mentioned under Assistant Chief Bratakos, the “with” should be changed to “plus” for computer training and under Assistant Chief Nathan Ramos, 6<sup>th</sup> paragraph, it should reflect 6 investigators, 2 Captains and 4 subordinates.

Chair Nagamine asked if there were any other corrections. There were none.

There being no further comments or corrections Commissioner Wataru moved and Commissioner Nekota seconded that the minutes be approved as corrected. With a unanimous vote in favor, the Commission approved the corrected minutes.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF AUGUST 28, 2019. Chair Nagamine called for any comments or corrections to the executive session minutes of August 28, 2019. There being no comments or corrections, Commissioner Wataru moved and Commissioner Nekota seconded that the minutes be approved. With a unanimous vote in favor, the Commission approved the executive session minutes.

V. REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF. Fire Chief Neves passed out copies of his monthly report for August 2019 and highlighted the following:

1. Fires. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that there were 11 structural fires and highlighted a few. Details of the fire incidents can be found in the monthly report.

Fire Chief Neves went over an incident that took place in Waipahu on August 19, 2019, regarding a two-story townhouse in which two females found themselves trapped. HFD personnel laddered the building and rescued them through a window. Fire investigators could not determine the cause due to lack of specific evidence.

Fire Chief Neves went over an incident that took place in Waipahu on August 23, 2019. The cause of the fire was due to burning of green waste. Fire Chief Neves explained that it is illegal to have a fire in your yard to burn waste.

Fire Chief Neves went over incidents that took place in Mililani on August 24, 2019 and in Kapolei on August 28, 2019 and mentioned that these fires were intentionally set.

2. Hazardous Conditions. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the department responded to 24 weather-related emergencies.

- 2 Water evacuations
- 3 Blown roofs
- 5 Arcing wires
- 6 Downed trees
- 8 Downed power lines

3. Equipment Status. Fire Chief Neves informed the Commission that there were 9 frontline apparatuses that were out of service.

Commissioner Hong asked what a frontline apparatus is. Fire Chief Neves explained that it's the first line truck that is assigned to an incident.

4. Vacancies. Fire Chief Neves went over vacancies with the Commission. Details can be found in the monthly report.
5. Injuries- Report of Industrial Injury or Illness (ISWC). Fire Chief Neves went over the injury list with the Commission as well as the loss of time incidents.
6. Grievances. Details are in the monthly report.

The Fire Chief also reported on the following:

1. During the month of August, HFD received 3 complimentary correspondences and 4 complaints. Details are in the monthly report. Fire Chief Neves made clear for the third listed complaint, involving an apparatus driver drinking from an unsecured flask while the apparatus was in motion, the flask contained a non-alcoholic drink.
2. Fire Chief Neves went over station visitations.

August 2019 (2/1,197)

3. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that Assistant Fire Chief Nathan Ramos will be retiring at the end of September 2019.
4. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the 200 Club luncheon will be held on October 18, 2019, at the Prince Waikiki to honor HFD's Manager and Employees of the Year and personnel with 25 and 35 years of service.
5. Fire Chief Neves had each member of the executive staff give a brief description of their sections recent activities.

Assistant Fire Chief Socrates Bratakos- Support Services. Chief Bratakos spoke on Fire Prevention Week activities. Chief Bratakos mentioned that the department will kick it off with a family day at the Honolulu Zoo on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that the Fire Prevention Week art mural event will be held at Spalding House and fire fighter safety guides will be going out to schools.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the art murals displayed at the stations are painted by school organizations, community clubs and Boy Scouts from different areas.

Fire Chief Neves asked Captain Emmett Hall and Captain Mark Inay to speak on safety.

Captain Hall informed the Commission that their team manages the safety programs within the department and reviews accident reports, and incident safety concerns, and supervises the SCBA shops and warehouse operations.

Captain Hall mentioned that currently he's working on personal protective clothing and equipment as well as purchasing protective gear with distribution to fire operations, and managing the Peer Support team.

Captain Hall briefly spoke on developing an occupational disease screening program in the near future.

Fire Chief Neves went over peer support with the Commission and used the recent aircraft incident at Mokuleia as an example.

Captain Inay went over the fall protection program within the department as well as work site safety with the Commission.

Captain Inay mentioned inspection of stations to make sure the department is in compliance with HIOSH and fire code regulations.

Captain Inay briefly discussed decontamination equipment and the respiratory protection program.

Fire Chief Neves asked if there are any questions.

Commissioner Hong asked how safety training is conducted, whether online or in person.

Captain Inay said that the Target Solutions online training system is used in part, and certain quizzes are given online. Fire Chief Neves also noted that with regard to Peer Support, mainland people come in to train the trainers.

Chair Nagamine asked the Commission if there were any other questions.

Commissioner Hong mentioned an incident on Koko Head and commended the department's rescue team on a job well done.

Commissioner Wataru asked about pilot vacancies.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the department currently has 5 trained pilots and the department is in the process of using a 3<sup>rd</sup> helicopter and its goal is to have 2 pilots every day.

Chair Nagamine asked the Commission if there were any other questions. There were none.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council Resolution No. 18-298, CD1 re: Fire Recruit Training and Testing Programs. Commissioner Nekota moved and Commissioner Morton seconded that the Commission go into executive session regarding Council Resolution No. 18-298, CD1, to “consult with the board’s attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities” with regard to these matters [HRS Sec. 92-5(a)(4)]. By unanimous vote, the Commission went into executive session at 2:25 p.m. and the regular public meeting reconvened at 2:33 p.m.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Discussion of potential changes of rules, policies and procedures of the Fire Commission. Commissioner Hannemann moved and Commissioner Morton seconded that the Commission go into executive session regarding potential changes of rules, policies and procedures of the Fire Commission, and to “consult with the board’s attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities” with regard to these matters [HRS Sec. 92-5(a)(4)]. By unanimous vote, the Commission went into executive session at 2:33 p.m. and the regular public meeting reconvened at 2:45 p.m.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENT: The next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 23, at 2 p.m. in the Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business the Commission ended its meeting. It was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Nadine Murata, Secretary.

APPROVED:

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CRAIG NAGAMINE, Chair